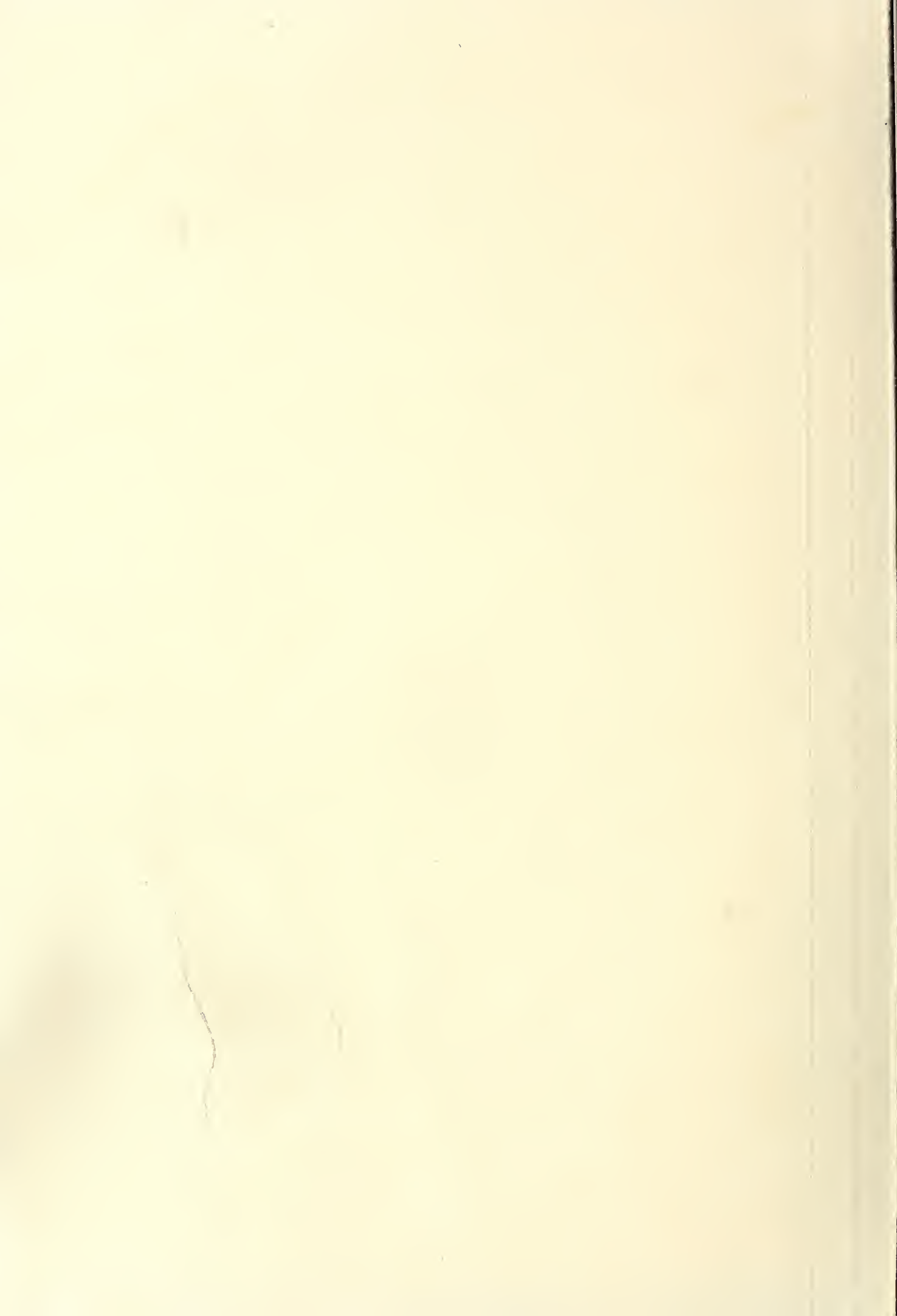


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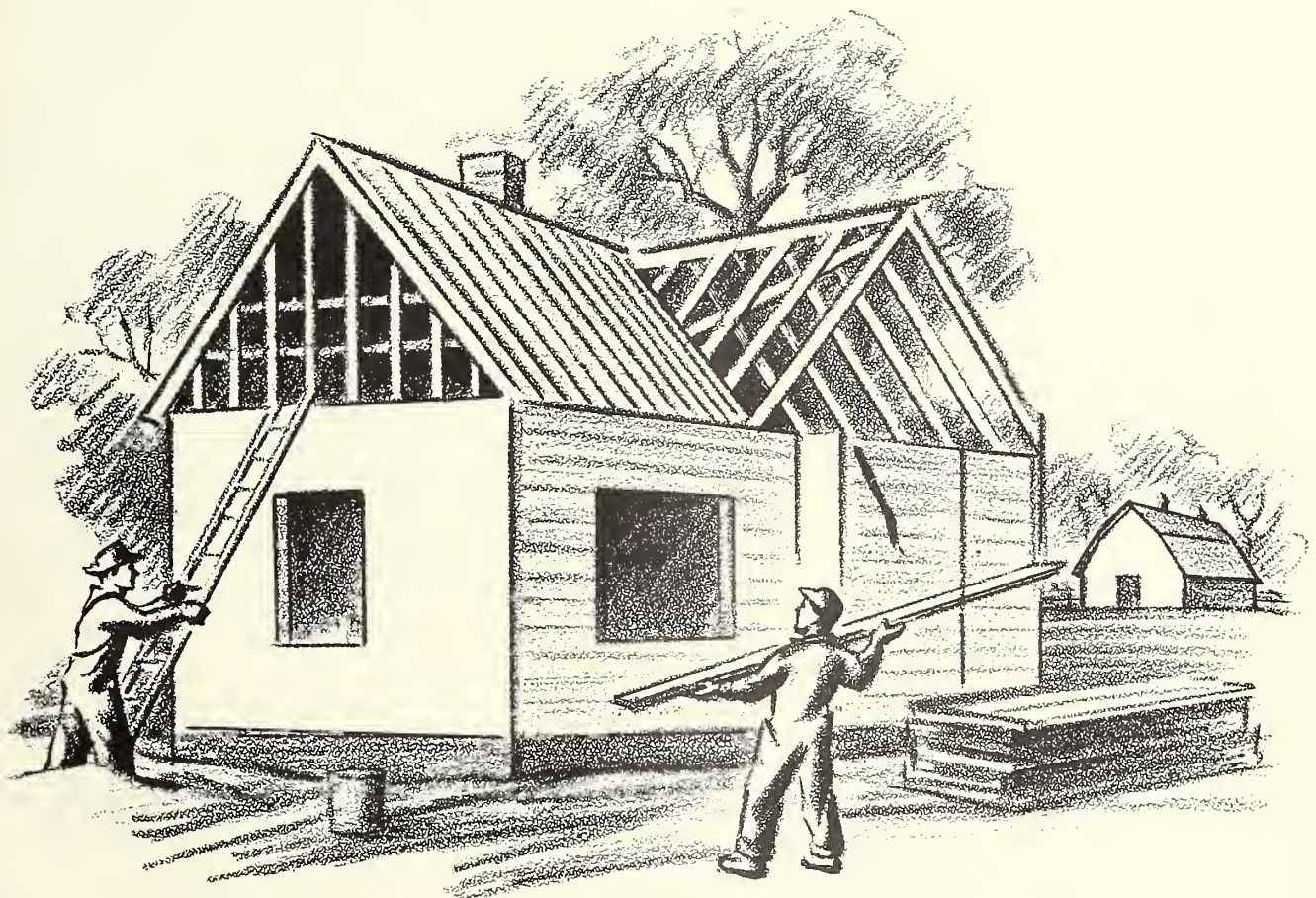
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# RURAL HOUSING

Central States Housing Conference

January 24-26, 1946, Chicago, Illinois



✓ EXTENSION SERVICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

MARCH 1946

25



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## CENTRAL STATES HOUSING CONFERENCE

Chicago, Illinois  
January 24-26, 1946

The Central States Housing Conference was called by the State extension directors following a recommendation by the National Committee of State Home Demonstration Leaders. The purpose of the conference was to provide an opportunity for administrators, supervisors, and specialists to review current problems, learn of housing research under way, and consider ways of implementing extension programs in rural housing.

The conference program was not confined to farm dwellings but included all factors of farmstead improvement, such as the relationship of farm buildings, landscaping, and similar problems. It was not a subject-matter conference but rather an opportunity for everyone concerned with housing to consider the problems and discuss ways and means of getting State and county programs under way.

The program was set up to provide for a minimum of speeches and a maximum of discussion. Ample opportunity was provided to pool experiences and ideas from the various States. There was an excellent exhibit of bulletins, illustrative materials, and teaching aids from the 12 States participating in the conference.

The following report includes a copy of the program, summaries of talks, and minutes of the discussion sessions. For further details about specific programs or activities, inquiries should be directed to the particular State involved.

### ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES AFFECTING EXTENSION WORK IN HOUSING

#### Research in Farm Structures in the North Central Experiment Stations - - F.R.Immer

##### I. Organization of the North Central Experiment Station Farm Structures Committee

1. 14 States and USDA collaborating.
2. Research is organized through 13 subcommittees as follows:

Farm house	Fruit and vegetable storage
Dairy cattle housing	Machinery and farm shop
Swine housing	Farmstead planning
Poultry housing	Economic relationships
Beef cattle and sheep	Utilization of building materials
Grain storage	Midwest plan service
Forage crop shortage	

There are about 75 people on these committees.



3. Each committee, except the last-mentioned, is working on a regional publication giving present state of knowledge of functional requirements.

Farmhouse and beef cattle housing manuscripts have been reviewed by the regional State committees and should go to the publishers in a month or two. The farmhouse bulletins will be published in Illinois, beef cattle bulletin in South Dakota.

After regional bulletins are prepared, will come coordination of the research programs of this region. Extent of research will depend on finances available.

## II. Some problems of the immediate future.

1. Training of rural builders
  - a. Special curricula for rural builders in the universities.
  - b. Short courses. Some colleges are setting up 1-year courses for builders. Others are on a shorter term basis.
2. Use of local materials to alleviate shortage of purchased lumber.
3. Some research problems.
  - a. Experiment station and extension staffs have the "know-how" and viewpoint and their combined knowledge can't be duplicated anywhere else.
  - b. Attempts should be made to reduce building costs. One-half of labor on farms is in and around the buildings. It takes 3 or 4 man-minutes now to produce a bushel of corn in the Corn Belt. How can building cost be reduced? Laminated rafters are a good start. The farmer can't afford to speculate on a building; he often must live with his mistakes if they are made in erecting a building.
  - c. One- vs. two-story barns is not a settled problem yet.
  - d. Farm work simplification points to our giving thought to labor saving in designing buildings and laying out farmsteads.
  - e. Good buildings keep boys on the farm.
  - f. The farmer has no access to architectural services. He must rely on his land-grant college and the industry. There is no building code on farms and no engineer to supervise construction.
  - g. In city dwellings we pump heat in when needed. In buildings for animals we use the heat of the animals. Sixteen cows give up the heat of 100 pounds of coal per day.
  - h. Good buildings and farmsteads eliminate human drudgery, improve living standards, and last longer.

### III. Midwest Plan Service

Well-prepared plans are the most effective way of presenting sound building plans. Good plans should show functional practices and be so prepared that builder can follow them. A wide range of plans is desirable, and close cooperation between States is needed. The industry is eager for any help that can be given.

Midwest Plan Service is cooperative between 14 States. It was started in 1932 on borrowed money. It has depended on sale of plans for support. There are 300 plans now available in the service but there still is incomplete coverage. To keep plans up to date would require an annual budget of about \$10,000. It has been proposed that this amount could be allocated to the 14 States in proportion to value of farm building investments. This would break down as follows:

Arkansas	\$ 600	Missouri	\$ 805
Illinois	1,015	Nebraska	450
Indiana	745	Ohio	1,050
Iowa	1,135	Oklahoma	540
Kansas	500	South Dakota	255
Michigan	800	Wisconsin	930
Minnesota	900		

At present, Directors Bliss and Buchanan, of Iowa, have employed an engineer for the Plan Service for this fiscal year in anticipation of the time when Midwest can be taken over by the cooperating States. Plans for beef cattle barns have been prepared for the regional bulletin now being edited. Two copies of all other plans on hand have been prepared and sent to subcommittee chairmen.

Mr. Turner, of USDA, has agreed to furnish the services of the agricultural engineer. The Bureau may furnish travel funds so this engineer can visit the cooperating States.

We need to set up a "plan budget" of requirements for reasonable coverage and prepare new plans where needed. Present plans will be continued and revised or redrawn.

We need close cooperation with builders. Catalog material comparable with sales appeal of commercial organizations is a necessity. This means attractive illustrations.

The Midwest Plan Service proposes to publish annual revisions of a new catalog of plans.

In large quantity plans will be so cheap as to be given away free. At present 17- by 22-inch blueprints cost 8 cents. By using photo-offset of 11- by 15-inch size in quantities of 500 the cost per sheet would be only slightly over 1 cent. Books of plans will be available also in bound volumes for desk form.

The Midwest Plan Service needs an advance of income to get the service started. After that it may be possible to operate from sales of plans and from financial help from associations of manufacturers.

A cooperative plan service will be an economy for the several States in that better service can be provided at lower cost through such a plan service than through each State attempting to set up its own sets of building plans.

Government Policies as They Affect a Rural Housing Program - - Gladwin E. Young,  
Regional Agricultural Analyst, BAE.

Apparently there is at present no specific Government policy directed toward rural housing. There are many Government programs, however, that point the direction that Government policy would be likely to take if a policy on rural housing were crystallized. Among these programs are the farm credit programs of the FCA and FSA, the REA program, the soil conservation programs, and the agricultural research and educational programs.

Proposed legislation now before Congress seeks to establish a specific national housing policy. Policies that guided the authorization of agricultural programs now in operation serve as guides to crystallize a national housing policy and point toward the encouragement of a coordinated housing program.

Vital facts of significance to a rural housing program include the following:

1. The accumulation of high wartime farm incomes has placed many farmers in position to do something about the accumulated need for farm housing and farm building improvement. It is estimated that liquid and cash assets of farmers increased from 5 billion dollars to 17 billion dollars from 1940 to 1945. Farm mortgage debt was reduced by a net of \$1,315,000,000 during the same period.

Not all farmers, however, have been able to lay aside cash assets and reduce debts. It appears likely that about half of the farms in the North Central States will have neither wartime savings nor sufficient current farm earnings to keep farm buildings in repair and replace them when they are gone, unless ways and means are found to reduce drastically the cash outlay usually required.

The question of how to assist this group of farmers poses more difficult problems for solution by the agricultural colleges and the USDA than those to be found in more fertile areas and on farms more fortunately located.

2. Replacement, repairs, and maintenance of farm structures have been delayed for about two decades. The postponed demand and the present improved financial status promise to give rise to a large volume of building as soon as materials are more readily available. The calculated depreciation on permanent farm improvements has been greater than expenditures for 19 of the 25 years between 1920 and 1944. During this period it was estimated that 12.6 billion dollars were spent on permanent farm improvements, while at the same time depreciation totaled **approximately 14 billion dollars.**
3. Estimates by the U. S. Forest Service indicate that the consumption of lumber in farm buildings in 1940 was the highest since 1928; but, because of wartime needs, the quantity of lumber used for farm construction in 1943 dropped to a level equal to the low period of the 1930's.

Prospects are that the demand will outrun the supply of lumber for some time. Lumber production in the United States is currently at the rate of 25 million board feet a year, which is about 70 percent of the 1941 rate.



4. The number of persons living on farms decreased by 5 million, or more than 15 percent, between 1940 and 1945. The number of farms in the 13 North Central States decreased by 88,953 during those years. These wartime shifts may be relatively permanent, depending chiefly upon employment opportunities outside of agriculture. Therefore a housing-aid program cannot follow a formula that would simply help to finance the replacement or remodeling of farmsteads where they are. Adjustments still under way in agriculture will require both a redistribution of the labor employed in agriculture and a reduction in the peacetime excess of this labor, and this means adjustments in farm housing.

Public agencies have a responsibility for working out a program that will assist farm people to get the most value, satisfaction, and utility for the money that will be invested in farm buildings. Farm people have a right to expect this service from the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the agricultural colleges. National welfare stands to gain if the job is well done.

The opportunities that lie ahead for contributions to efficiencies in farm production and, even more important, for contribution to satisfactions and conveniences in farm life in this country are greater in the field of farm housing and farm buildings than in almost any other field.

An active on-site farm-building service program is needed, in addition to research and training programs. In the interest of helping the farmer get the most for his money in buildings, this on-site service should seek to:

1. Make maximum use of farm labor.
2. Make maximum use of local materials.
3. Develop cooperative use of specialized machinery and skilled labor; expand cooperative buying.
4. Provide building plans adapted to farm efficiency, convenience, and comfort.

Farmers are not going to get their money's worth if traditional designs, materials, and buying and construction methods are followed. A rural housing program should attempt to go all the way in helping farmers get the most for the money, materials, and labor invested in farm buildings. Government policies now in existence seem to me to encourage the immediate undertaking of such a program.

## Scope and Obligations of Extension in Farm Building Activities - W. H. Brokaw

### Homes for Retiring Farmers

In the past there has been a tendency for older farmers to retire and move to town. This oftentimes has resulted in inefficient operation of farm units even in years of adequate moisture. During periods of depression, hardship for both owner and operator was a common occurrence. Small, well-planned houses equipped with modern conveniences would be an inducement for these older owners to stay on the farms, thereby permitting them to produce a large part of the food they need and providing the younger operators with valuable guidance.

The increased load of heavy physical work caused by wartime production, coupled with a shortage of help and a scarcity of machinery, will necessitate older people delegating much of the active farm work to younger people sooner than normally would be necessary. Sons and daughters returning from the service and from war plants will need the guidance of their parents and homes of their own in which to make peacetime adjustments. Modernization of existing houses for the younger people and construction of separate units for the older ones can contribute materially to a maintenance of a sound agriculture and a sound family life.

### Efficient Service Buildings and Equipment

Greater efficiency would result on nearly every Midwestern farm if some buildings could be relocated or remodeled. Labor-saving equipment also is needed on almost every farm. This is true particularly on the general-purpose farms where the handling of livestock is being handicapped by lack of, or inconvenient arrangement of, feed grinding, mixing, and carrying equipment and manure-removal equipment, and incorrect location of fences, gates, and watering tanks.

### Desirable Housing Standards

Over-all considerations - - The type and quality of housing depend upon the earnings of the family. Earnings of farm families are influenced by the productivity of the soil, the managerial ability of the family, weather, and prices paid for farm products. Since the last two factors often are unpredictable, rural families find it advantageous to be conservative in their housing investments. Five main factors which merit careful consideration when planning any type of farm housing activity are:

- a. The farmhouse is an integral part of the physical plant of the farm. It cannot be considered as a separate unit, but neither should it be ignored when planning the other buildings.
- b. The investment in buildings should be kept within the earning capacity of the farm. Overbuilding will jeopardize the entire enterprise.
- c. All houses, regardless of cost, should (a) provide protection from the elements; (b) provide protection from rodents, reptiles, and insects; (c) be as conveniently arranged and equipped as funds permit; and, (d) provide as much privacy for members of the family as is possible.



- d. Convenient, comfortable, attractive homes can result in increased earning power of the family by contributing to increased health, efficiency, morale, and happiness.
- e. Better living conditions will encourage the more ambitious farm youth to stay on the farm or return to it after obtaining advanced education.

### Sanitation

Certain phases of sanitation apply to all farm homes. The health, both physical and mental, of the family, and its efficiency are directly influenced by an adequate, safe water-supply and sewage-disposal system; sanitary facilities for garbage and refuse disposal; protection from rodents, reptiles, and insects; and, sanitary facilities for handling milk, milk products, and food supplies.

### Statement of Problem

Study of the Midwestern farm housing situation reveals an extensive need for repair and remodeling of existing farm dwellings and the construction of many new homes. Since the activities carried on within a farm home differ greatly from those in urban homes, careful planning is essential. Also, the farm dwelling must be considered as a part of the farm building problem and not as an unrelated structure. Good homes can contribute greatly to the future development of Nebraska's agriculture and its citizens if carefully planned and built within the earning power of the families and the land. Overbuilding on any farm, such as followed World War I, is almost certain to lead to economic disaster for the family.

1. Obligations: To provide farm families with basic information on:
  - a. Economic aspects of building investment as related to productivity of soil.
  - b. Effect upon community of sound building investment.
  - c. Effect of practical, well-arranged buildings upon physical, mental, and financial health of family.
  - d. Relation between convenient building arrangement and labor efficiency.
  - e. Building changes needed because of changing agricultural methods and practices.
  - f. Fundamentals of design of structures to fit the needs peculiar to their intended use.
  - g. Importance of possible flexibility of use to permit future changes if necessary.
  - h. New research developments in the handling of livestock, products and machinery as related to the structures which house them.
  - i. New developments in building materials, construction methods, and equipment.
  - j. Possibilities of added comfort, convenience, and income from the use of electricity.
  - k. Importance of safe, sanitary, and ample water and sewage disposal systems.
  - l. Possibilities of improving living conditions from the correct use of windbreaks and landscaping materials.

2. Scope: Methods of disseminating information to assist maximum number of families.

a.. State-level activities

- (1) Agent training meetings.
- (2) Builders' schools
- (3) Material dealers' meetings
- (4) Smith-Hughes teachers' meetings
- (5) Building-equipment dealers' schools.

Materials:

- (1) Bulletins
- (2) Plans -- blueprints and specifications.
- (3) Slides, charts, films.
- (4) Models.

Summary

1. Often Extension has no choice in what it does. Even if housing program is well planned and an emergency arises, we should be compelled to drop it to handle the emergency.
2. We need farmers' cooperation in planning, but we need to be prepared before talking with farmers. Emergencies like economic depressions or drought often upset plans.
3. As we grow older, we look back with satisfaction on our old homes. We remember the flowers, the grass, the fruit trees, etc.
4. In older days, we built larger homes. Little attention was given to equipment. Large families, lots of help, and spacious kitchens went together. Things are different now.
5. Disasters have prevented a building program in Nebraska since those early days. Now is a great opportunity.
6. Where does housing fit into the Extension program? Just about everywhere -- for example: Soil conservation enables the farmer to increase dairy cows. Farmer then needs a place to wash dairy equipment. Also, men as they enter the house need a workroom in which to clean up.
7. Families wait too long to get the kind of home they want. With children gone, a large house is not needed. They can get an adequate, satisfactory home by using materials and facilities at hand, for example: A Dawes County farmer has a log house, ceiled and plastered inside and sided outside. Result, a comfortable, nice-appearing, satisfactory home.

EVALUATION OF SITUATION AND PROBLEMS IN A HOUSING PROGRAM . :

Conditions, Needs, and Scope of a Housing Program -- Deane G. Carter

The immediate need for an extension program in farm housing is the result of a combination of numerous factors:

1. The current shortage has focused public attention on housing needs. The deficiency in housing has been intensified by the war but has been accumulating for about 25 years.
2. There is a prevailing idea that technical progress during the war should contribute remarkable new features and values in housing.
3. Government interest, legislative proposals, and public planning have stimulated an intense interest in housing.
4. Increased farm incomes and financial resources have made it possible for farm families to plan for extensive improvements.
5. The "farm market" has attracted the attention of industries, particularly as an outlet for increased production from greater plant capacity.

Farm building conditions and needs are dominant factors in program planning. Expenditures for farm housing are necessarily secondary to expenditures for production and current living expenses. The depression starting in 1920, the period of recovery and "retooling" from 1935 to 1941, and the past 5 years of war restrictions and shortages have limited housing improvement.

The farm dwelling has never been adequate when measured by commonly accepted standards of housing. The index of structural repair of farmhouses is about 50 on a scale of 100; the average age of farmhouses in the North Central region is between 40 and 50 years, and in some sections more than half the houses were built before 1900; the majority do not have electric service, water supply systems, plumbing, sewage disposal, or central heating.

Significantly, the older houses were built in sizes and types that bear no relation to present needs and under other conditions of material supply, wages, and costs. About half of the houses in the region are either too small (four rooms or fewer) or too large (eight rooms or more) to be most effective in size and pattern. Today, however, there are equipment and construction materials available to provide superior housing. The primary limitations are insufficient educational and technical planning aids or unsolved social and economic problems.

The Agricultural Extension Service is the only agency with the facilities, organization, personnel, experience, and legal authority to deal with agricultural education on a scale sufficient to include the various phases of a housing improvement program. Thus it is logical that the Extension Service provide an educational program to meet so urgent a demand. The preparation of such a program



should be undertaken, however, with full knowledge of the complexity of the problems, the interests concerned, and the limitations imposed. Following are the most significant of these problems and limitations:

1. County workers are not specially trained for housing and farm buildings extension.
2. No one specialist is competent to handle all phases of housing; conversely, most specialists can make some contribution.
3. Education must be on a volume basis, for there is no immediate possibility for adequate individual service to the farm family.
4. Housing is a personal problem, wherein customs, habits, preferences, and family characteristics are more obvious than basic patterns, requirements, or procedures.
5. Among specialists and administrators there is no unanimity of opinion with respect to house plan, structure, equipment, environment, or quality standards. This is due primarily to the lack of research, experience, and standardization of sufficient strength to offset personal opinion.
6. Each housing situation is complicated by existing buildings, location, tenant or owner occupancy, farm size and value, production and productivity, economic resources, and the individuality of the operator.

#### Financial Resources and Economic Limitation -- L. M. Schruben

The first and most important problem of extension education is to devise ways of providing farmers and their families with information so that they can intelligently arrive at the answers to their problems. Ours is not the responsibility of providing all the answers.

We have been jumping from one emergency to another for so many years that we have not really developed a coordinated and integrated educational program that will look at and approach the problems of the farm family in the light of their individual situation. To do this a program must be broad enough to go far beyond projects. To be successful a program of this magnitude must embody the technical skills of all subject-matter specialists under the wise leadership of those responsible for administration.

Housing as such should be one of the phases of the broad extension educational program. For the next several years this part should come in for a great deal of emphasis, but not as an emergency project leaving other phases by the wayside.

Agriculture generally is in excellent condition to finance housing improvement using current earnings, cash, reserves, and credit -- but not to do everything desired. Many farm units have limited farm returns, small reserves

of cash, and not much credit. The educational program should caution farm people against overbuilding, too high costs of construction, and the excessive use of credit. In using credit farmers should bargain carefully to obtain loans at favorable rates of interest. The banks have much money to lend at favorable rates. But in the use of credit debts are contracted. Thus, it would be expedient to finance with cash returns as much as possible of the construction work.

Farm families should appraise the alternative uses of their money, choosing the best investments for efficient farm operation and wholesome living. Opportunities of investment include housing improvements, new equipment, and education. The advantages and disadvantages must be weighed against each other in terms of their contribution to future security and better living. It would be desirable for States to set up standards of farm investment similar to those established by the Federal Housing Authority as guides for home owners. Farmers should be advised of the range and limits of safe investments in housing as related to their net farm income. A real service in the limits of safe investment should be rendered to farmers.

Service buildings must be planned and financed soundly in line with their present and future ability to earn. The farmhouse has intangible benefits that prevent exact analysis in dollars and cents. The farmhouse must be recognized as not only a dwelling for the farm family but also a contribution in service to the management and operation of the farm.

#### Industrial Developments for Housing -- E. G. Glaze

REMARKS ON MORNING TALKS -- Mr. Glaze made a few remarks on topics presented by the speakers in the morning session. These included:

1. Midwest Plan Service. -- He said that to ask for financial support from commercial associations is not going "begging." Rather it is an offer of services almost impossible to obtain elsewhere.
2. Local materials. -- It is a mistaken idea that lumber manufacturers have not assisted the farmer with the utilization of the wood lot and local gravel in his buildings. Not to do so would often mean a loss of sale of materials by the local dealer.
3. Importance of lumber dealer. -- The local dealer has an important place in housing. He is one man to whom the farmer goes for assistance in addition to buying his materials.

NEW MATERIALS. -- In spite of large amount of publicity, there are not many new materials suitable for housing.

Plywood, although used a great deal, is not an economical product and is never likely to be, because of methods of manufacture, and because it uses the best part of logs. It is not going to be a cure-all for building problems.



Hand-pressed fiber boards have been used considerably during the war, and will continue to be used in the future.

Plastics will not be used much in houses. However, it will serve as a covering of plywood. This is expensive but can be used for special purposes or in bathrooms and kitchen cupboards.

Paints. -- There is not yet a perfect exterior paint. Lead oxide paints are still best for outside use because of their protection through chalking. Some developments are being made in plastic paints.

NEW USES OF OLD MATERIALS. -- New uses for existing materials are being found. For example, sheet aluminum will find considerable use in houses. Fiber boards are being used for outside wall sheathing. Cement asbestos shingles and boards are being used for siding and roofing.

A number of desirable developments in glassed openings such as "thermal pane" have been made, but these are not as yet economical and standardized as to sizes. They have to be custom-made. More use will be made of glues. Short-length lumber can be utilized. For example, short pieces can be spliced into studs.

QUALITY OF LUMBER. -- Lumber will be seasoned and dry the same as prior to the war. Prices will be still higher.

TREATMENTS. -- Treatments of wood to make it more fire-resistant are expensive and will be used only for special purposes.

HEATING SYSTEMS. -- Central heating systems are being made to perform better. Both warm air and hot water can be circulated mechanically. A pump for a hot water system can be obtained at a cost of \$23. Improvements in controls are being made. Radiant heat pipes in floor are not yet satisfactory because of large amount of heat lag and difficulty in control.

WATER SYSTEMS. -- Some developments have been made, the most worthy being jet pump. For wells not too deep, it can be put in the house although the well is outside.

DESIGNING IDEAS.-- The Cape Cod house is still a substantial type. It is tight and compact. Now the ranch type of house is popular.

New houses with movable partitions are given consideration. Curtains may be used instead of partitions. This makes the same room space to serve more than one purpose.

There are some possibilities in the use of solar houses in the latitude of 38 to 49 degrees for farms.

NEW METHODS OF CONSTRUCTION.-- Present methods of house construction are reasonably logical developments from long experience. Some of the best methods of prefabrication use these same methods of construction, as in the building of wall panels. Conventional methods of construction are economical and easy. Power tools facilitate construction. Prefabrication has not yet developed lower-cost houses owing to large overhead and shipping costs.

INSULATION will be used a great deal in the future. Many mistakes have been made in its use.

MILLWORK is being improved. Complete door and window units are now being made.

Retail Outlook for Materials and Services -- J. H. Thomas, Dealer, Rockford, Ill.

PROBLEM OF HOUSING. -- Stimulating new construction and remodeling are still a major problem. Many construction materials are still critical. Lumber is again under priority to favor the veteran. Shortage of labor, and price ceilings also affect construction.

LUMBER QUALITY AND SUPPLY. -- Dealers will continue to receive green or not completely dried lumber, the same as we have in the past few years. There will not be an ample supply as in the past. Alternate materials have been used and will continue to be used in construction.

RURAL BUILDING FROM A DEALER'S POINT OF VIEW. -- Although building is rather costly, there are a number of things which a dealer can do to reduce costs and to obtain better construction. These are: (a) Assisting in planning and designing, (b) selection of alternate materials, (c) using better materials, (d) training of carpenters and builders, and (e) cooperating with extension workers, thereby rendering a better service.

#### Summary of Discussion

LUMBER EXPORT. -- About  $3\frac{1}{2}$  percent of present lumber produced is exported. This is the same amount and kind of lumber that is normally exported.

USE OF BARRACKS. -- Barracks are not good for permanent buildings. However, they may offer possibilities for less permanent housing. It is up to each State to explore possibilities. Cost may be a limiting factor. Most barracks have been designed to last several years only.

GLASS BLOCKS can be used advantageously in masonry construction but not so satisfactorily in frame construction.

Integrating Housing with Farmstead Organization and Landscaping -- H. W. Gilbert, Extension Specialist in Landscape Gardening, University of Illinois.

- I. Three departments, horticulture (landscaping), agricultural economics (farm management), and agricultural engineering (farm structures) are projecting educational work that integrates housing with farmstead organization and landscaping. The departments recognize the place of home economics in this work.
- II. The problem: Each specialist needs the help of the others in a coordinated plan if the results are to be honest.
  - (a) The cost must be within the limitations of the ability of the client to pay. (Farm and home management, architect).



(b) The dwelling should have maximum qualities of modern interior construction and design, within the financial and structural limitations of the problem. (This will involve home economics, architect, architectural engineer, and landscape architect).

(c) The dwelling will be related to the family needs, the land, and the enterprises on the farmstead. It will fulfill a desire for family life in efficient, healthful, and attractive surroundings.

III. A farmstead can be designed that has a house, barn, crib, and other units that are of excellent construction in themselves. Furthermore, a farmstead can have an efficient arrangement for the sole purpose of eliminating work, and management for profit. Both of these are essential in a good plan. But this is not enough. To use an example, we can go to church in a truck, but we should prefer to take the family in a passenger car. The reasons are obvious. Both truck and the passenger car have the qualities of efficient engineering purposes. The landscaped farmstead and each structural unit in it will have the qualities of both the truck and the passenger car. The problem of retaining the sturdy engineering qualities of the truck and fusing them with the principles of art for better family life on the farm to advance the standards of our rural society is a complex one which draws upon the resources of all of us here. The landscape architect will coordinate the recommendations for the best long-time objective of each farmstead enterprise or problem into his landscape plan if it is an honest plan.

IV. The farmstead is the seat of family culture and learning, especially for growing children. The farm home and its environment becomes the most important center for the farm family.

V. Integration is important, whether it is the establishment of a new farmstead or the gradual improvement of an existing one. The plan to be followed in any case will hold some compromises. These compromises will vary according to widely varying circumstances, not the least of which will be our ability to work with one another. The same problems of achievement challenge us, whether it be a new farmstead, a new house, or a changing farmstead or a remodeled house. We fit the principles of development to the local situation. There are great opportunities ahead, if we recognize one another's problems and objectives.

#### Meeting the Homemaker's Needs -- Madonna Fitzgerald

We recognize a wide distinction between a house and a home. Extension's goal is to help families make homes out of houses.

The home must be thought of in terms of headquarters for both farm and home business.

The problem is not wholly funds -- abilities of the family are important. The planning of a functional house is essential if the family is to be satisfied with the expenditure of funds. The esthetic phase is part of the over-all program; it need not be sacrificed to achieve efficiency.

The value of careful planning cannot be overlooked. Long-time planning helps to give the homemaker confidence for discussion of her needs with the carpenter. It enables the family to sift essentials from nonessentials. It gives the family time to become acquainted with comfort facilities--insulation, floors, and finishes. It provides an opportunity to plan for the location of equipment at hand and future purchases. It provides an opportunity to plan the uses that can be made of a utility room, preferably located on the first floor. It makes possible an analysis of needs before building. The result should mean a functional house.

The house should meet the requirements of the family now and in the future years as the family changes.

Satisfactory housing aims to give a better quality of living -- comfort, convenience, enjoyment, and pride in one's surroundings.

#### Summary of Discussion

Farm finances must be translated into resources for family living.

There is need for further economic and farm management studies in connection with a farm housing program.

Some economic management record data now available can help in setting up financial standards.

There is need for similar guideposts for expenditures in all farm investments of a permanent nature.

There is an area of unexplored research relating to the farm home and service buildings which should be planned and carried through.

Service buildings must pay for themselves as an investment. The farm home has values that cannot be measured entirely in dollars, since it serves both the family and the farm.

Joint decisions of men and women are necessary in planning farmstead improvements, including the farm dwelling.

At the county level this is a joint program. The agricultural and the home-economics trained agents should work together to improve rural housing.

The housing program is related to every field of the Extension Service. Every specialist has a contribution to make.

Commercial associations and dealers play an important part in any farm building program. Close cooperation between educational and commercial agencies is necessary if farm people are to be well served.

SUBJECT-MATTER MATERIALS AND METHODS OF PRESENTATION FOR A HOUSING PROGRAM

In opening this session, Miss Ruby Loper emphasized the following points:

This is not to be a discussion of subject matter but of ways and means of getting the job done.

The task ahead is a big one. Cooperation and correlation are necessary.

Extension or someone else will do the job.

Industry is anxious to help.

Every State has developed tools, techniques, and methods. This session provides an opportunity to pick up new ideas and profit by the experience of others.

Consider all farm buildings, not just the home -- house and service buildings, as well as farmstead arrangement for appearance, efficiency, and proper construction. Include functional, structural, and architectural aspects of all buildings, landscaping, water supply, sewage disposal, electrification, etc., as well as economics. The last is extremely important and probably the hardest to present.

Discuss ways of developing cooperation between States.

Visual Aids -- Keith Hinchcliff, Architect, Illinois.

Mass-produced visual aids will be used in the field by local extension workers. Specialists find it impossible to fill requests for illustrative material. Coworkers feel these insufficiencies. There is need for some mass production to put in the hands of local workers the kinds of tools that will strengthen the work.

Models are generally regarded as tools. Aim to get models in mass production at small cost of time and effort.

1. Use of blueprint machines to reproduce house plans.
2. Construction of paper models.
3. Preparation of chart to go with model. Chart is used to point out essential features in plan that are overlooked in the model. Chart and model are worked together.
4. Mimeographed leaflet prepared to go with blueprint plan.

Mr. Hinchcliff presented a farmstead package which included plan, 7 models, chart, and discourse. Package job may be had from Illinois in limited quantities at \$1.90 a set.

Get three-dimensional effect:

By setting blackboard at an angle and gluing outing flannel to the base of each model. By moving buildings about on a grid the same scale as the buildings, the comparison of varying relationships and arrangements may be demonstrated.



For people who wish to do their own planning:

House planning game prepared on blueprint. Cut out, glue to cardboard.

Score sheet included as guidance.

Chalk talk boards -- compact with legs, board, light, chalk tray, extension cord, etc.

Blueprint available from University of Illinois Extension Service.

Methods Used in Conducting a Kitchen Improvement Program -- Julia Pond

I. Methods:

1. Result demonstration.

Best results -- may reach fewer people.

Serves to interest people in community and county.

Provides a source of material for bulletins.

Out of these contacts have come requests for help for complete remodeling of house.

2. Leader training

Leaders worked on plan for their kitchens.

3. Tours.

II. Visual aids

Large photographs.

Slides.

Floor plans and elevations of cupboards and closets drawn to large scale used in training meetings.

Bulletins -- Titles of bulletins published in Michigan: "Attractive Kitchens," "Convenient Kitchens," "Kitchen Cupboards," "Improve Your Kitchen Cupboards," and "Household Closets."

Models -- actual size

Shelves -- vertical partitions

Partitions for drawers.

Actual-size cupboards illustrating two work heights are a part of home-economics exhibit in Rural Progress Caravan.

III. News -- radio

Homemakers' hour -- college station

Occasionally home agent and rural women have participated in program with specialist. Usually specialist prepares talks.

Prepared articles for Michigan Farmer magazine.

In the discussion following Miss Pond's talk, Mr. Amundson of Michigan, told of the 13 labor-saving shows reaching 21,000 people where the kitchen cupboard exhibit described by Miss Pond had proved a real success. Actual size cupboards have proved more successful than models.

Slides or pictures with syllabus are being prepared and used successfully in Minnesota and Illinois. Illinois rents sets to agents instead of selling them. Two result demonstrations in each of 83 counties in Michigan are under way. Such demonstrations are used as a basis for magazine articles, tours, meetings, and in many other ways. Used in these ways, they serve a large number rather than an individual family.

House Furnishing's Part in a Housing Program -- Ann Biebricher, Ohio

Miss Biebricher reported on the correlation of house furnishing in the housing program. She pointed out the need of keying programs to income levels and said that 1940 census figures for Ohio showed variation of products sold ranged from 22.8 percent of all farms with income under \$250 to 4.11 percent of all farms with \$4,000 and over value of all products sold. She had noticed a variation in all the States.

Incomes and furnishings vary, but all housing needs to accommodate some furnishings for healthful family living. One method is to encourage farm families to plan remodeling jobs or building so furnishings can be used to best advantage. This may be done by:

1. Meetings of homemakers at which the arrangement of furniture in relation to family needs--wall spaces, lighting (natural and artificial), traffic areas, etc. are discussed. Device used at this meeting is a floor plan used (mimeographed form) at which each woman considers her own family--the wall and floor space and furniture to scale in the space.
2. Result demonstrations -- for both low and high income groups--in community showing some remodeling job and furnishings in the room. Farmer and wife explain improvements made to fit furnishings and family needs. A device used with this method is a check sheet as a guide for those visiting the result demonstrations, including points such as light and storage needed, working space arrangements, etc.
3. Large drawings to show divisions and proportions of storage for children's toys, books, clothing, sewing, and general. Following this, some result demonstrations have been worked out where families then drew up their own plans for improvements.
4. Have made and used slides for good home lighting, emphasizing wiring and lighting in general.
5. Conferences held for county staff members at which housing standards for remodeling were discussed. The agricultural engineer, buildings division, used mimeographed sheets with proportions of some standard furnishings when drawing attention to fitting house to family needs. This draws attention to need of family planning for furnishings.
6. Joint conference with some public utilities (electrical) companies at which the utility company and extension presented subject matter jointly to county extension agents, giving a general understanding of proper installation and use of electricity. Fundamentals of electricity--fuses, wiring, lighting. General meetings for giving information on the subject.
7. Bulletins for lighting and wiring used for additional reference and distribution of information.
8. Publications on various phases of the farmhouse such as home lighting. Need to consider the possibilities for both lower and higher farm income families.
9. News articles have been published, some radio talks given on housing standards to meet furnishing needs.

All methods have attempted (1) to draw attention to existing housing problems in relation to furnishings, make people more aware of them; (2) at the same time to develop some standards toward which to work even for families of lower as well as those of \$4,000 and up income level; and, (3) to encourage planning by the family.

Discussion following Miss Biebricher's presentation included ways of interesting men, such as general meetings and result demonstrations. How to develop sales resistance led to a discussion of work of specialists in informing manufacturers regarding better standards for furniture of medium price levels, more publicity and use of radio, and repair and refinishing of old furniture.

#### Building Plans -- M. J. LaRock

Milk house program as example of how Wisconsin intends to develop farm structure problem:

1. How could milk house program be developed.
  - a. Requirements of buildings.
  - b. Plan details -- material, equipment, etc.
2. Prepared six standard milk house plans.
3. Established cardinal principles:
  - a. Location
  - b. Material
  - c. Water supply and disposal
  - d. Size.
4. Has one sheet with plans and standards.
5. Reached leaders and people through:
  - a. Meetings with milk inspectors.
  - b. Discussion of cardinal points.
6. Program.
  - a. County meetings  
County agent  
Milk inspectors  
All milk company field men.
  - b. One day in county with field men, locating and planning milk house.
7. Plan sheet leaves something with county agent, field men, farmers with pertinent information so they can follow up and think it through.

#### House Remodeling

1. Seventy-five percent of requests to office were for remodeling.
2. Columbia County program
  - a. Threemeetings, 1 month apart.
    - (1) Principles of planning.
    - (2) How to draw and prepare plans.
    - (3) Checking plans (comments).Discussion of materials.
  - b. Can have local people draw up own plans
  - c. Remodeling harder than new designs.



3. Wisconsin plan for housing program
  - a. Prepare large sheet to give information in planning.
  - b. Uses before and after plan with "Guides to Remodeling" on bottom of sheet.
    - (1) Will use arrows and legends to indicate points on original plan needing attention.
    - (2) Will have pictures.
  - c. Use back of sheet for alternate plan with more details.
  - d. This material will go to:
    - (1) Lumber dealer
    - (2) Homemaker
    - (3) Builders
    - (4) County agents and home agents.
  - e. Expand same idea for other farm buildings.
4. Feel we cannot do building job through county agents.

#### Summary of Discussion

With follow-up help of milk company field men, Wisconsin farmers build milk houses successfully after one meeting.

We are accepting more and more the idea of using and cooperating with commercial concerns.

Farm magazines are ahead of Extension in plans, pictures, etc. Use them -- cooperate with them.

Material companies and manufacturers have plans and prepared material. -- Use them.

Extension has arrived at place where we recognize one of specialists' functions is to prepare material. Need material on mass basis.

Extension can best get actual farm and home experience into planning and bulletins.

Need for plans with less detail and more principle -- with more life.

Interchange and correlation of literature needed among States. Most good publications are developed by some outstanding personality.

Regional circulars may eliminate some of that. Regional bulletins may delay printing. Preparation of regional bulletins should have some personal contacts between States involved.

Recommends 8 by 11½ inches for building circulars. May have to remodel bulletin racks. Extension now realizes a variety of methods are necessary on this job. Not aiming for perfection, but improvement, step at a time. Teaching materials, especially visual aids such as models, cut-outs, charts, and pictures, need to be made available on a mass basis.

A variety of teaching methods need to be used to get housing improvements made step by step.

Result demonstrations are not a service to an individual family but a means of spreading good housing ideas through press, tours, or an excellent visual aid.

Standards are needed toward which families of lower income as well as higher income can work.

More cooperation of Extension Service with commercial firms is recommended. Encourage planning by the family.

## ORGANIZING A STATE HOUSING PROGRAM

### 1. Assembling and Coordinating Available Subject Matter.

- a. This is largely the responsibility of the specialists. They may work with supervisors and others in a State housing committee.
- b. Kits can be prepared and supplied to agents. Most visual aids and subject-matter materials must be personally vitalized in training meetings before agents and leaders can make the best use of them.

### 2. Cooperation With Other States, Federal Agencies, and Organizations.

- a. The opportunity to study the exhibits at this meeting has been greatly appreciated.
- b. The Washington extension people will help exchange ideas and materials during the year.
- c. Individual specialists will work some things out together and arrange to exchange ideas between States.
- d. Extension workers have opportunities to offer guidance to commercial and other organizations as they prepare literature, design equipment, and initiate campaigns.
- e. If some local details are lost in the effort to regionalize recommendations and materials, the farm people who use such information have intelligence enough to make local application of the fundamental principles.
- f. No way that is very satisfactory has yet been developed to get lights out from under bushels and exchange ideas, methods, and materials between States.

### 3. Cooperation Available From Industry

- a. Films are available which are purely educational.
- b. A builder's handbook about concrete may be ready by fall.
- c. REA and other organizations have some literature and visual aids.
- d. Extension Service in each State needs a reviewing committee to pass on such materials as films, slide films, slides, publications, and exhibits before they are used in Extension Work.

### 4. Cooperation With the Press and Radio

- a. The extension editor should be included in the planning sessions when the State housing program is being formulated.



- b. Daily and weekly press may carry news of activities in the housing program but not much subject matter or teaching material of a fundamental nature. The exception might be in good country dailies where editors take a personal interest in the program and want to print special columns or pages occasionally.
- c. Since many farm and home papers have established a farm buildings service, working with them might result in short, well-illustrated articles that would reach thousands of readers and be well accepted by them.
- d. Platter and wire recordings made on farms and in homes where changes are being made, and bringing in the hopes and dreams and satisfactions of the family, would be effective in the radio field.
- e. Any attempt to dramatize or animate radio dialog must be cleverly done. One person's idea of cleverness may sound "corny" to everyone else.

#### 5. Functions of Specialists and Supervisors

- a. Supervisors can help with the planning and organizing of State and county housing programs. They can bring to the State committee the viewpoint of county agents, help decide where and how the housing program fits in with other Extension Work in the State and county, and help prepare the schedule of training and demonstration meetings to be held. They can help overcome the defeatist attitude that may prevail, and to get the program under way.
- b. Specialists have the responsibility of organizing the subject matter and getting it into practical use. In most States, first work is being done in agent-training meetings. Agent-training should precede leadership-training or public meetings.

#### 6. How To Get Program Rolling

Each State reported in varying detail but without any attempt to follow an outline or answer specific questions. Some reports may have been incomplete owing to oversight or to the fact that others had mentioned certain things often.

Four States mentioned State housing committees and what they had done. Other States either have or will have such committees.

Eight States have either held special agent-training meetings regarding farm buildings, or will have such meetings in the near future. One State is going directly to farm and home leaders.

Three States mentioned the part that program planning has had during the last year or two in laying the foundation for the housing program. The request for help came from farm people and county farm and home agents.

This farm building program is not entirely new. Demonstrations about water systems, sewage disposal, landscaping, storage, kitchens, and furniture have been given by extension workers for many years.

PROCEDURES AT THE COUNTY LEVEL

I. Possible Activities at the County Level

1. Housing program should be farmer-sponsored.
  - a. County extension council should study the situation and appoint a housing committee representing farm people, dealers, architects, and other interested agencies and individuals.
  - b. County extension workers should coordinate the activities of the committee.
  - c. The committee should study needs, develop program, plan meetings, demonstrations, publicity, exhibits, and other educational activities that will assist people in planning to build or remodel.
2. All available personnel should be encouraged to help get the job done.
3. Get the information to people and let them make their own decisions and do the work. It is not our job to give personal aid. We should use more exhibits, result demonstrations, tours,
4. Be sure the information gets to the farmer before he builds. Farmstead improvement is important in early plans. Emphasize replanning lay-out when new buildings are to be constructed. Tendency is to rebuild on old site even if old lay-out is bad -- that is, relation of buildings to one another, driveways, etc.
5. Each county extension office might have a reading center filled with reference materials on planning, building, finishing, furnishing, etc.

II. How Shall We Help Farm People With Housing Problems?

1. Extension should point out possible choices and leave people free to do what they want most.
2. Guides for building expenditures have been developed for urban areas, but none are available for farm families.
  - a. We need to help families think through their building plans in relation to income and what they can afford.
  - b. Use of case studies is helpful in select cases of various income levels.
3. Local architect has contribution to make; bring him into the program.
  - a. Help him to give simplified architectural help or advice.
  - b. State architectural association may be able to help work out a plan.
4. Remodeling is largest and most difficult job.

5. New houses -- replacements must not be overlooked.
  - a. New homes -- replacements of homes burned, etc.
  - b. New homes may be used as result demonstrations.
6. Lack of training of all in housing field.
  - a. Extension personnel
  - b. Lumbermen
  - c. Carpenters
  - d. Architects
7. The Lumber Dealers' Association is developing a series of study groups -- Home Planning Institutes. Agents should learn more about educational work being carried on by lumber dealers.
8. Colleges and universities may assist in training program of all involved in housing program.
9. Do not overlook such problems as --
  - a. The neglected tenant house.
  - b. Rural youth and their desires in regard to housing.

### III. Advantages and Disadvantages of Initiating a County-Wide Movement in Housing.

1. Advantages:
  - a. It compels the State staff to study situation and needs; prepare materials and develop plans for helping counties.
  - b. It encourages cooperation with resident faculty, industry, and other agencies.
  - c. It places attention on training of personnel.
2. Disadvantages:
  - a. There is a danger of a "handed down" program.
  - b. Professional enthusiasm may get ahead of the parade. We may promise more than we can follow up.
  - c. Extension staff is inadequate for a big program.

There should be a good local advisory group in the county. This makes it their program and to some extent insures cooperation of local services. This is a good program for "the family approach."

### IV. Function of County Extension Agents.

1.
  - a. Housing is not a separate program but must be integrated into the over-all county extension program.
  - b. It is not new. We have done much work in storage facilities, kitchens, water systems, and bathrooms, but this will need to be greatly expanded.
  - c. As in food production and health programs, the agents will find themselves working with many new people.



2. Agents must train themselves to handle this new subject matter.
  - a. Some agents will have much more aptitude than others in this program.
  - b. They need to know how to handle financial matters related to housing.
  - c. Agents must learn functional, personal, and esthetic needs of farm families.
  - d. Agents should know principles of farmstead lay-out and landscaping materials suitable for the area.
3. To get the job done, some work must be done on a group basis--the only way to reach more people.
  - a. General principles can be given in groups.
  - b. Teaching aids necessary for this.
    - (1) Planning aids
    - (2) Building aids
    - (3) Remodeling
  - c. Individual service on completing plans will always be a part of our work but we should train others to help with this.
  - d. Use local architects.
  - e. Demonstration houses--be sure the family knows what is involved in having a demonstration house and that it is made available to people who wish to see it.

Make opportunities for dealers to visit demonstration homes in their area.

Every farm fire offers opportunity to establish a farmstead improvement demonstration.
4. Professional workers, such as home economists, agricultural agents, architects, etc., should let the people know what help they can give, so more will not be expected.
  - a. Agents should help to plan the State program.
  - b. They should help local people to develop their own housing program.
  - c. Agents may need to arouse interest in better housing standards.
  - d. They should maintain a list of people who have indicated an interest in better farming.
  - e. They must assemble materials related to all phases of planning and building.
  - f. Both men and women agents should get acquainted personally with dealers and builders.
  - g. See that dealers know recommendations being made by specialists. Maintain list of dealers and send them materials.
  - h. Use more result demonstrations and make more use of them.
  - i. In home building, there is need for a lot of technical information that will call for trained help.

V. The Training Program: Points To Consider in Training \*

1. Any training should include both subject matter and methods.
2. Training promotes the most effective use of a small staff.
3. All county extension workers should be trained as well as all State workers concerned with the program.
4. It is important to go into detail. Remember it is new material to most agents. Don't go too fast.
5. Have all materials classified. Provide outlines and aids for holding meetings and presenting materials.
6. Summarize each session for the agents.

\* Examples of how some States are training their personnel are included in the Appendix.

VI. Cooperation With Local Industry, Press, Other Agencies

1. Farmers get help from local lumber dealers who influence both plans and construction.
2. Dealers should know what the Extension Service is expecting to do -- not through county meetings alone, for they won't all come.
3. Supply dealers with leaflets they can give to people on planning and construction.
4. Let dealers know what we are doing on better lay-out of buildings. Leaflets on this are also valuable.
5. Get county extension committees to invite local editors to a planning meeting and find out what types of stories they want.
6. Keep all other U. S. Department of Agriculture agencies informed. This may be done through the county agricultural councils.

Summary of Discussion

1. Youth should participate in any housing program. Minnesota has been working with youth on farmstead lay-outs.
2. More research should be done on the relation of farm income to possible building plans. A subcommittee on North Central experiment stations is now working on this.
3. Fire protection has been ignored in this conference but should be considered in any housing program.
4. Other points not adequately covered in this conference:
  - a. Tenant houses
  - b. The dissatisfaction of youth with comfort and beauty features of many farm homes.
  - c. The need for plans for homes at different income levels.
  - d. Ways of evaluating our methods and results.

APPENDIX

Minnesota Activities in Initiating Housing Program

Director Miller raised the housing question at the spring round of district conferences (April) and was convinced action was imperative. A committee was appointed in May, consisting of county agent supervisor, home demonstration agent supervisor, 4-H staff member, extension editor, home management specialist, home furnishings specialist, agricultural engineer, organization specialist, and farm management specialist.

1. Committee arrived at a decision as to preliminary steps to be taken before the county program planning meetings were held in the fall. (October-November).

- a. Have material ready.
- b. Have supervisors and specialists ready. (Thresh out points of view, etc.)
- c. Have county extension agents ready. (Busy with many things. Have this in right perspective.)
- d. Plan for several years.

2. Further steps

- a. Arrange for series of district conferences of county extension agents in September with farm and home building as major topic.
- b. Agreed on materials to have ready and to have projected.

Ready for September conferences:

Extension folder, "What Is A Good Farm Home?"

Extension folder, "Farmstead Planning."

Two sets of charts, "Plan Before You Build" and "Home Plans."

- c. Agreed with subject-matter specialists on their places in the program. Some were quickly established:

Home management project already planned

Engineer could anticipate his requests.

Farm management and economic aspects called for some discussion and preparation

Relation of livestock specialists needed some study.

(Hog enterprise--two bulletins covering.)

3. District conferences (2 days)

First forenoon: Statements on home management.  
Statements on farm management  
(Basic consideration)

First afternoon: Preview of materials  
Committee assignments--all.  
a. Procedure and methods  
b. Organization.  
c. Program planning.

Evening: Continue committee sessions

Second forenoon: Committee reports

Second afternoon: Program planning.



4. Subject-matter training schools

Five district training schools for county workers

- a. Planning the home
- b. Planning the kitchen
- c. Storage spaces
- d. Planning the bathroom, plumbing, plumbing care.

Home demonstration agents, county agents, 4-H agents, and supervisors -- notices go out to supervisors and all agents.

5. Leader-training meeting.

Folders labeled by color to help agents classify material.

Divisions of a training meeting on kitchen improvement:

- a. Have a well-thought out guide for leaders.
- b. Check sheet: Your kitchen -- things you like; things you dislike.
- c. Kitchen improvement you expect to make.
- d. Kitchen features you consider important.
- e. Housing information desired.
- f. Types of kitchen.
- g. Most important centers of kitchen
- h. Bulletins as source material.
- i. Flannel illustrative kitchen.
- j. Planning of their own kitchen.
- k. Summarize meeting and method of organizing material and how to present it.

Illinois Activities in Initiating Housing Program

1. Section written into "postwar" report in 1943.
2. Addition of a staff member, June 1944, to prepare planning aids.
3. Organization of University of Illinois Small Homes Council (general University program) 1944-45.
4. Initiation of series of conferences on farm buildings and housing.
  - a. General conference (1 day) for dealers, manufacturers, and press, March 1944.
  - b. Manufacturers' representatives (1 week) 1944.
  - c. Dealers' short courses (3 days). Three held in 1944 and 1945.
5. Study of farm building conditions and needs (research), 1944-45, and detailed mimeograph report.
6. Program and subject-matter conferences with farm advisers by districts, 1945.
7. Program and subject-matter conferences with home advisers by districts, 1946.
8. Intensive preparation of planning aids for county and local use.

Exhibits:

A list of teaching aids exhibited at the conference is being assembled and will be sent later to those in attendance.

Program--Central States Extension Housing Conference  
Allerton Hotel, Chicago, Ill., January 24-26, 1946

Thursday, January 24

10:00 a.m. Chairman.....J. C. Spitler

Topic: Administrative Policies Affecting Extension Work with Housing

Panel Topics:

1. The work of the North Central Coordinating Committee ..... F.R. Immer
2. Government policies as they affect a rural housing program..G. E. Young
3. Scope of extension work in housing..... W. H. Brokaw

Discussion

2:00 p.m. Chairman..... Georgiana Smurthwaite

Secretaries                      Florence Atwood, H.J. Barre, A. T. Holman

Topic: Evaluation of a Housing Program Situation

Discussion Leader.....Deane G. Carter

Panel Topics:

1. The conditions, needs, and scope of a housing program.
2. Financial resources and economic limitations.
3. Industrial developments for housing: facts and fancies about materials and methods.
4. Retail outlook for materials and services.
5. Meeting the homemaker's needs.
6. Integrating housing with farmstead organization and landscaping.

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Friday, January 25

9:30 a.m. Chairman ..... O. C. Croy

Secretaries..... George Amundson, Florence Day, Mary Rokahr

Topic: Subject-Matter Materials and Methods of Presentation  
for a Housing Program

Discussion Leader.....Ruby Loper

Panel Topics:

1. Visual aids.
2. Building plans.
3. Publications.
4. News and radio.
5. Coordination and correlation of subject matter and materials (Region, State and county).

2:00 p.m. Chairman ..... Nora M. Hott  
Secretaries ..... Elton Lux, Lucile Reynolds, Louise Woodruff

Topic: Organizing a State Housing Program  
Discussion Leader ..... S.B. Cleland

Panel Topics:

1. Assembling and coordinating available subject matter.
2. Cooperation with other States, Federal agencies, and organizations.
3. Cooperation available from industry.
4. Cooperation of the press.
5. Functions of specialists and supervisors.
6. How to get the program "rolling".
7. How to prepare county workers for the housing program.

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Saturday, January 26

9:00 a.m. Chairman ..... N. D. Gorman  
Secretaries ..... Eunice Heywood, Mary M. Miller, Clarence Shanley

Topic: **Procedures** at the County Level  
Discussion Leader..... Minnie Price

Panel Topics:

1. Possible scope of the extension program at the county level.
2. If Extension's "first job" is to help farm people know what they want and what they can afford to have (as some people say), how should we proceed to do this?
3. Advantages and disadvantages of initiating a county-wide movement in housing.
4. Functions of county extension agents.
5. The training program -- both subject matter and methods.
  - a. For county extension agents
  - b. For local service personnel, dealers, carpenters, electricians, etc.
  - c. For demonstrators or cooperators--among the farm people.
6. Cooperation with local industry, press, other agency representatives.
7. This is the way we are working on this problem --

County agricultural agent.

County home demonstration agent.

11:30 a.m. Summary of conference discussions by conference secretaries.

12:30 p.m. Adjournment.

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Attendance at Central States Housing Conference

University of Illinois, Urbana:

J. C. Spitler, Associate Director  
Deane G. Carter, Professor of Farm Structures  
Kathryn Burns, Home Demonstration Leader  
Keith Hinchcliff, Agricultural Engineering  
Ralph Parks, Agricultural Engineering  
H. W. Gilbert, Landscape  
Dorothy Iwig, Home Furnishings  
Gladys Ward, Home Management

Purdue University, La Fayette, Ind.

H. J. Barre, Professor, Agricultural Engineering  
Ruth Hutchison, Home Management  
P. K. Connelly, District Agent  
R. B. Hull, Landscape

Iowa State College, Ames

W. H. Curry, Agricultural Engineering  
Naomi Shanks, Home Management  
Dorothy Simmons, Assistant Home Demonstration Leader

Kansas State College, Manhattan

Georgiana Smurthwaite, Home Demonstration Leader  
Kay Bader, Agricultural Engineering

Michigan State College, East Lansing

R. J. Baldwin, Director  
Rachel Markwell, Home Demonstration Leader  
Julia Pond, Home Management  
George Amundson, Agricultural Engineering  
Helen Noyes, Assistant Home Demonstration Leader

Minnesota University, College of Agriculture, St. Paul

P. E. Miller, Director of Extension  
R. F. Immer, Assistant Director, Experiment Station  
S. B. Cleland, Farm Management  
Mary Mae Miller, Home Management

Missouri University, College of Agriculture, Columbia

Madonna Fitzgerald, Home Management  
Louise Woodruff, Home Management  
Ralph Ricketts, Agricultural Engineering  
K. B. Huff, Agricultural Engineering.

Nebraska University, College of Agriculture, Lincoln

W. H. Brokaw, Director of Extension  
Florence Atwood, Home Demonstration Leader  
Elton Lux, Publications  
Ruby M. Loper, Agricultural Engineering  
Rizpah Douglas, Home Management  
E. A. Olson, Agricultural Engineering

North Dakota State College, Fargo

N. D. Gorman, County Agent Leader  
Florence Day, Home Management  
Arthur E. Schultz, Agricultural Engineering

Ohio State University, Columbus

Minnie Price, Home Demonstration Leader  
O. C. Croy, District Agent  
J. D. Blickle, Agricultural Engineering  
Ann Biebrecher, Home Furnishing  
Ruth Beard, Home Management  
Thelma Beall, Home Management

South Dakota State College, Brookings

Nora M. Hott, Home Demonstration Leader  
Clarence Shanley, District Agent

University of Wisconsin, Madison

Blanche L. Lee, Home Demonstration Leader  
Max La Rock, Agricultural Engineering  
P. E. McNall, Farm Management  
Margaret McCordic, Home Management  
Louise Young, Home Management  
R. B. Pallett, District Agent

Guests:

R. A. Glaze, Weyerhaeuser Company, St. Paul, Minn.  
J. H. Thomas, Lumber Dealer, Rockford, Ill.  
E. L. Hansen, Portland Cement Association, Chicago, Ill.  
W. G. Kaiser, Portland Cement Association, Chicago, Ill.

U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

S. P. Lyle, Extension  
Mary Rokahr, Extension  
A. T. Holman, Extension  
L. M. Schruben, Extension  
Eunice Heywood, Extension  
Karl Knaus, Extension  
Lucile Reynolds, Human Nutrition and Home Economics  
J. R. Dodge, Plant Industry, Soils & Agricultural Engineering  
G. E. Young, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Milwaukee, Wisc.













